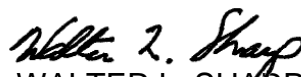




3 February 2010

President's Day and Lunar New Year - Holiday Safety

1. February 15th marks two important holidays for both USFK and the Republic of Korea – U. S. President's Day and the Republic of Korea Lunar New Year (Seol-Nal). President's Day is set aside to pay tribute to the dedicated Americans who served as President of the United States during turbulent and challenging times, allowing it to become the great Nation that it is today. Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays celebrated in the Republic of Korea – a time of family gatherings, reaffirming bonds, and paying tribute to elders as the Lunar New Year begins.
2. My safety concerns during this holiday weekend include winter weather hazards: poor road conditions, winter sports, excessive alcohol consumption, and fires in our homes, apartments, and barracks. There will be millions of vehicles on the road as families travel to visit relatives and friends, resulting in very heavy traffic congestion. Leaders must ensure their personnel maintain a high level of awareness at all times to guard against tragedy over the long weekend.
3. To mitigate any unwarranted risks during this period, please review my safety guidance in [Policy Letter #2](#). Senior leaders need to ensure that first-line leaders conduct "Under the Oak Tree Counseling" and gain a verbal behavior contract with their subordinates to ensure they return to work safely after the long weekend. I highly recommend the use of the Buddy System when traveling off post. Leaders should explain how the Composite Risk Management process works and how it can positively impact any activity they plan on engaging during the holiday weekend. Leaders must also make every effort to emphasize personal responsibly and due regard for safety.
4. Our goal remains the same... no loss of life at any time! I am convinced that your personal involvement and the chain of command's concern for our service members, civilian employees, and family members will make a difference over the holiday weekend. Our combined involvement will continue to save lives.
5. We go together!


WALTER L. SHARP
General, US Army
Commander

FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!

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